BCPharmaCare Newsletter *November 14, 2008 Edition 08-011*

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NEW INSULIN PUMP COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS

Effective **November 17, 2008**, PharmaCare will cover insulin pumps for children age 18 or younger who have Type 1 diabetes or another form of diabetes requiring insulin.

Who is eligible for coverage?

Insulin pump coverage is available to children:

age 18 years of age or younger, and

who have Type 1 diabetes or another form of diabetes requiring the use of insulin, and

who are covered by Fair PharmaCare or PharmaCare Plan C (B.C. Income Assistance Recipients), and

whose diabetes physician specialist confirms that they meet the medical criteria.

How does a patient obtain coverage?

The patient's first step is to speak to their diabetes specialist (i.e., an endocrinologist or a specialist physician with experience in managing pumps in children and adolescents). If their specialist determines that they meet the criteria for coverage of a pump, their specialist will submit a Special Authority request to PharmaCare.

If the request is approved, PharmaCare will send an approval letter to the specialist's office. The specialist will give the patient a copy of this letter to take to the insulin pump supplier of their choice.

Patients should be sure to wait for the approval letter before purchasing the insulin pump. PharmaCare cannot provide retroactive coverage for purchases made before approval is confirmed.

The use of PharmaNet is not intended as a substitute for professional judgment.
Information on PharmaNet is not exhaustive and cannot be relied upon as complete.
The absence of a warning about a drug or drug combination is not an indication that the drug or drug combination is safe, appropriate or effective in any given patient.
Health care professionals should confirm information obtained from PharmaNet, and ensure no additional relevant information exists, before making patient care decisions.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

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What medical criteria must a patient meet?

A patient may be eligible for coverage of an insulin pump if multiple daily insulin injections are not adequately controlling their blood sugar levels and they are able to use an insulin pump.

When their diabetes physician specialist requests Special Authority coverage, the patient and/or their family will need to complete a form confirming their ongoing commitment to blood glucose monitoring, to the safe and appropriate use of the insulin pump, and to ongoing age-appropriate diabetes education.

For more information on the criteria for coverage of an initial or subsequent insulin pump, please visit the criteria page on our website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme/sa/criteria/restricted/ip.html.

How much will PharmaCare cover?

PharmaCare covers 100% of the price of one of the approved insulin pumps every five years, subject to the rules of the patient's PharmaCare plan:

- If the patient is on PharmaCare Plan C (B.C. Income Assistance), PharmaCare covers 100% up to the maximum amount.
- If the patient is covered under the Fair PharmaCare plan, PharmaCare covers 70% of costs above the patient's deductible and 100% of costs above their family maximum.

Important: Patients should register for Fair PharmaCare before purchasing an insulin pump to ensure they get maximum coverage.

What if a patient is already using an insulin pump that was not covered by PharmaCare?

If a patient already has an insulin pump, PharmaCare coverage is available to them if they meet the medical criteria for a subsequent pump, their current pump is four or more years old and the manufacturer's warranty has expired. Their specialist can submit a Special Authority request to PharmaCare for coverage. The patient will need to contact their pump supplier for a letter confirming the warranty expiry date. Their specialist will include this proof of pending warranty expiry with the Special Authority request.

Where can patients buy an insulin pump?

Patients can buy an insulin pump from any approved vendor in B.C. A current list of vendors is available on the PharmaCare website at: www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme/medsup/vendors.html

Where can patients covered under Fair PharmaCare get more information about how close they are to their deductible?

Patients can contact Health Insurance BC:

- From Vancouver, call 604-683-7151
- From the rest of B.C., call toll-free 1-800-663-7100

Service Representatives are available:

Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Patients can register for Fair PharmaCare 24 hours a day, 7 days a week using online registration.

- Visit our website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme for more information on Fair PharmaCare, or
- Go directly to the registration website at https://pharmacare.moh.hnet.bc.ca

INSULIN PUMP SUPPLIES—EXPANDED COVERAGE

Effective **November 17, 2008**, PharmaCare is expanding the supplies eligible for coverage to include insulin pump reservoirs/cartridges. Reservoirs and cartridges will be a benefit for patients of any age. Patients can purchase insulin pump supplies from pharmacies or from approved vendors.

These, and other supplies for insulin pumps, are covered under Fair PharmaCare, Plan C (Income Assistance) and Plan F (At Home Program). Maximum reimbursement is up to the manufacturer's suggested retail price, no dispensing fee.

Note: PharmaCare does not cover batteries, battery caps, adhesive pads, etc., for insulin pumps.

Eligible Insulin Pump Supplies—Product Identification Numbers (PINs)

The PINs shown below, as well as those for blood glucose testing strips and needles and syringes, are available on the PharmaCare website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme/pins/pinsindex.html.

Please note: Existing PINs for infusion sets/kits (999202) and infusion syringes (66123471) are being discontinued. Starting Monday, November 17, 2008, please use the PINs provided below.

Correct Quantities—Claims for all items should be entered as "each." For example, for infusion sets/kits:

If you dispense 1 kit and that kit contains10 cannula and 10 tubing, enter total quantity = 20.

If you dispense 2 kits and each kit contains10 cannula and 5 tubing, enter total quantity = 30.

Insulin Pumps

Product Description	PIN
Animas 2020	45230001
Auto Control Deltec Cozmo	45230002
Medtronic Paradigm 522	45230004
Medtronic Paradigm 722	45230005

Insulin Pump Supplies - Reservoirs/Cartridges

Product Description	PIN	Vendor
ACM Cozmo 3 ml IP Cartridge	47450001	Auto Control Medical (ACM)
ACM Thinset 1.8 or 3ml IP Reservoir	47450002	"
ACM Thinset 3ml IP Syringe Reservoir	47450003	"
Animas 2 or 3 ml IP Cartridge	47450004	Animas Canada
DMSI Accuchek Spirit 3.15 ml IP Cartridge	47450005	Disetronic Medical Systems Inc. (DMSI)
Medtronic Minimed 3cc IP Syringe Reservoir	47450006	Medtronic
Medtronic Paradigm 1.76 or 3 ml IP Cartridge	47450007	"

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Insulin Pump Supplies – Infusion Sets/Kits

Product Description	PIN	Vendor
ACM Cleo 90 Infusion Set	46340001	Auto Control Medical (ACM)
ACM Comfort Cannulas Only	46340002	"
ACM Comfort Infusion Set/Combo/ShortCombo	46340003	"
ACM Contact Detach Infusion Set	46340004	"
ACM Thalaset Infusion Set	46340005	"
ACM Thinset Infusion Set	46340006	"
Animas Comfort Infusion Set or Combo	46340007	Animas Canada
Animas Contact Detach Infusion Set	46340008	"
Animas Inset II or 30 Infusion Set	46340009	"
DMSI Accuchek Rapid D Infusion Set	46340010	Disetronic Medical Systems Inc. (DMSI)
DMSI Accuchek Tender 1 or 2 Infusion Set	46340011	"
DMSI Accuchek Ultraflex 1 or 2 Infusion Set	46340012	"
Medtronic Paradigm Polyfin QR Infusion Set	46340013	Medtronic
Medtronic Paradigm Quickset Infusion Set	46340014	"
Medtronic Paradigm Silhouette Infusion Set/Combo	46340015	"
Medtronic Paradigm Sofset QR Infusion Set	46340016	"
Medtronic Paradigm Sure-T Infusion Set	46340017	"
Medtronic Minimed Polyfin or Polyfin QR Infusion Set	46340018	"
Medtronic Minimed Quickset Infusion Set	46340019	"
Medtronic Minimed Silhouette Infusion Set or Combo	46340020	"
Medtronic Minimed Sofset or Sofset QR Infusion Set	46340021	"